



# The Severing Crime Edge

TATSUHIKO HIKAGI



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Tatsuhiko Hikagi

THE SPLITTING CHAMELEON

3

cut 13

YEAH...  
I'VE  
GOT TO  
DO MY  
BEST...

ARE  
YOU...  
ARE YOU  
ALL  
RIGHT?!

KIRI...  
KIRI

...I'M  
FINE.

THEY  
WEREN'T  
ACTUALLY  
TRYING TO  
KILL ME.

...TO  
MAKE UP  
FOR  
MAKING  
HER  
WORRY.

...SO  
CALM  
DOWN.

...I'M  
FINE...

BUT...



**cut 13:"Strawberry Jam"**





## **cut 13:"Strawberry Jam"**









YOU WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ACT NORMALLY IN FRONT OF SOMEONE WITH A KNIFE, RIGHT?

YOU WOULD COVER YOUR HEART WOULD START TO POUND, AND YOU WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO THINK PROPERLY.

SO... LOOK.



NOT SCARY AT ALL...

...A TOY LIKE THIS?

BUT WHAT IF THAT WEAPON WAS...

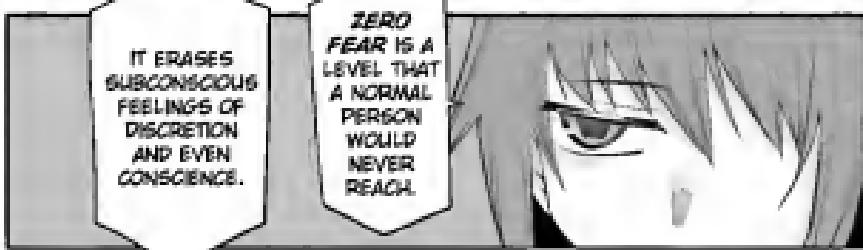
NEVER MIND THAT.

...YOU AREN'T GOOD AT MAKING THINGS.

IT FORCIBLY LOWERS A PERSON'S LEVEL OF FEAR TO ZERO.

TO PUT IT SIMPLY, A KILLING TOOL FORCES YOUR THOUGHTS TO CHANGE.











HAIMURA,  
IF YOU  
INTEND TO  
PROTECT  
HER...

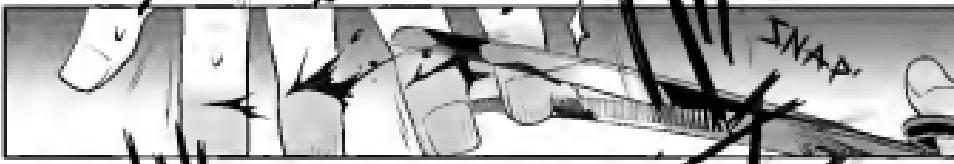
I HAVE NO  
CHOICE  
BUT TO  
KILL YOU  
AS WELL.















...THAT'S  
MY LINE.



I DON'T  
KNOW HOW  
SERIOUS  
YOU ARE...

THE  
QUEEN IS  
DESTINED  
TO DIE FOR  
THE SAKE  
OF AN  
AUTHOR!

YOU  
SHOULD  
ALSO  
BE  
DRAWN  
BY...  
...THE  
DESIRE  
TO KILL  
THE  
QUEEN!

ISN'T  
THAT  
RIGHT?!



I CAN'T  
LET THAT  
BE TAKEN  
AWAY BY  
SOME SO-  
CALLED  
"FATE."

SQUEEZE

...SHE  
JUST  
WANTS A  
NORMAL  
LIFE.

...I'LL  
FACE YOU  
WHENEVER  
YOU'D  
LIKE.

IF YOU  
CAN'T  
ALLOW  
THAT...







...FEEL THAT THE ONE WE SHOULD KILL IS SOMEONE ELSE...

...YET BOTH THE RULE-BOOK AND I...

I WAS GOING TO KILL HER IF SHE SHOWED ANY MURDEROUS INTENT IN HER BATTLE WITH "CRIME EDGE."

I CAME HERE TO TAKE CARE OF THE "PET WHIP."

...WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

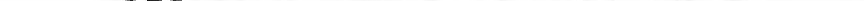
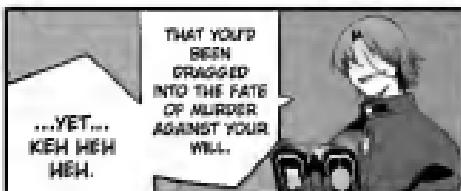
IS THE  
TRUE  
VILLAIN  
HERE...



...YOU,  
KIRI  
HAIMURA  
...P



cut 14



**STOP  
!!!**

MURK?

CH...  
CH...

I HAVE  
HEARD MANY  
RUMORS  
FROM THE  
PROFESSOR.

WELL,  
KIND  
OF

...NICE TO  
MEET YOU,  
"RULEBOOK."

## cut14: "Waltz of the Stars"



GAH...

SEIGI  
NAKAJIMA!!!!



NO.

I'LL  
SENTENCE  
YOU FOR  
DISTURBING  
THE  
PEACE...

HEY!  
DON'T  
LEAVE IT  
ON. TURN  
OFF THE  
PHONE.

KODOKURA  
TOOK YOU  
ABOUT THE  
"CONDITIONS"

...YOU  
KNOW  
THAT'S  
NOT  
ENOUGH  
TO KILL  
ME.

NO  
MURDERS,  
NO  
KILLINGS!

STOP  
BEING SO  
NARCISSISTIC  
!!

YOU  
AREN'T A  
SUPERHERO!





...HEY!  
SEVERING  
CRIME  
EGG!



YOU  
EGGED  
US  
ON...

GET  
OUT  
OF MY  
WAY.

LOSER.

NOOSHII



THAT MEANS IT'S ALL OVER ONCE HER "PUPPETS" ARE DEFEATED.

...THAT WHIP... THERE'S NOTHING SPECIAL ABOUT ITS DEADLINESS.







FEELING  
MISERABLE  
AFTER THE  
ROLE OF THE  
PRINCESS  
WAS TAKEN  
AWAY FROM  
ME IN THE  
SCHOOL  
FESTIVAL

...  
CHILDHOOD  
MEMORIES.

SO  
SHE  
ENTICED  
ALL THE  
BOYS  
TO VOTE  
THEM, FOR  
IT WAS HER  
JUST A  
GAME.

RONNIE  
WAS THE  
POPULAR  
ONE...  
I WAS  
JUST HIS  
CHILDHOOD  
FRIEND.

THE MOST  
POPULAR  
GIRL IN  
CLASS DID  
NOT LIKE  
THAT.

瑠  
記

正  
正  
正  
正  
正

結果

...  
WENT  
THROUGH  
A  
SUBTLE...  
...YET  
DEEP  
DESPAIR...

...EVEN  
RONNIE  
JOINED  
IN.

...I MADE  
A CHOICE.

LATER,  
WHEN I  
FOUNDED  
THE  
TOOLS...



THEN I  
COULD  
MAKE  
SOMEONE  
WHO  
WOULD  
TRULY  
LOVE ME!

THEN  
WITH THE  
QUEEN'S  
DEATH, I  
COULD  
BECOME  
A TRUE  
RULER.

THE  
PET WHIP  
GAVE ME  
TEMPORARY  
DOMINATION

...THE  
SAME  
UNSLIGHTLY  
PLACE  
AS  
BEFORE...

THAT'S  
WHAT I  
THOUGHT...  
BUT I'M  
BACK TO THE  
SAME  
UNGRACEFUL  
...

...BE A  
PRINCESS...

OH...  
OH...

I'LL...  
NEVER...



...CRIME EDGE  
IS CRUEL...

YOU HAVE  
BEAUTIFUL  
RED HAIR.

...TO SAY  
THAT YOUR  
HAIR IS  
COVERED  
WITH SPLIT  
ENDS.

I  
ALWAYS

...LOVED  
IT...

...  
AND THAT  
NATURAL  
WAVE  
YOU'VE  
ALWAYS  
HAD.



...IT  
MADE  
ME  
THINK.

MAYBE  
SHE  
WAS THE  
ONE  
SERIOUSLY  
CHAINED.

...WHETHER  
IT WAS  
FEAR OR  
SYMPATHY...

...WE  
DON'T  
KNOW  
WHY  
THEY  
DIDN'T  
RUN  
AWAY.

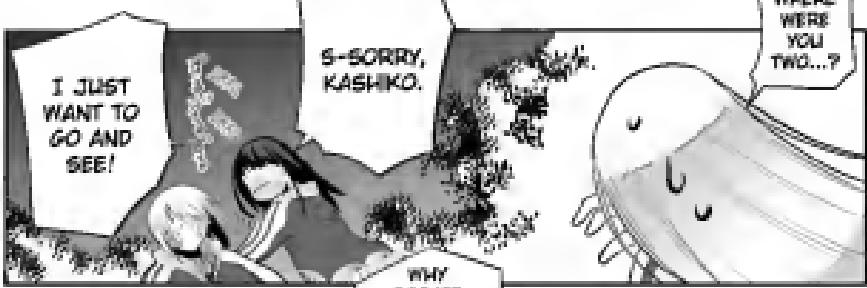
THE  
ORIGINAL  
AUTHOR...  
DID  
IMPRISON,  
TRAIN,  
AND  
EVEN  
KILL MEN.

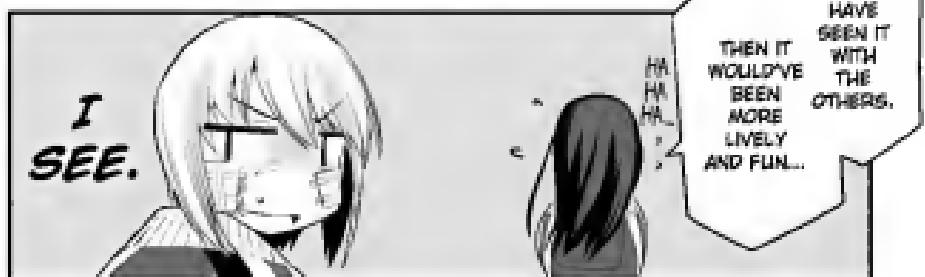
BUT IT'S  
SAID NONE OF  
THE  
VICTIMS  
WERE EVER  
BOUND BY  
CHAINES.

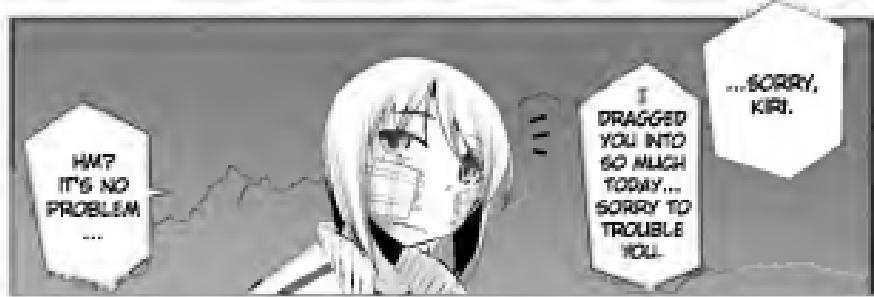


THE...









...BUT YOU  
SAID I WAS  
ONLY USEFUL  
FOR CUTTING  
YOUR HAIR...  
SO I WAS  
DISAPPOINTED...

HUH.

HUH.

I  
JUMPED  
TO THE  
WRONG  
CONCLUSIONS...

NO...  
I'M  
SORRY.

IT  
WAS  
TERRIBLE

SORRY!  
I'M  
SORRY!  
THAT'S  
NOT WHAT  
I MEANT!  
AAAA-  
AAAA-  
AAAAH.

...SO,  
UM...

WELL...



...IT'S  
PRETTY.

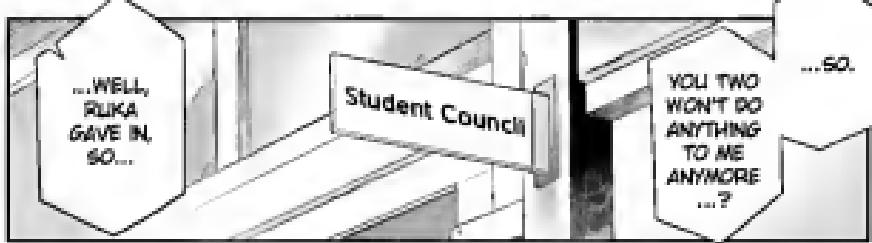
...YEAH.

"IT'S  
MORE LIKE  
IT'S...  
WARM."

"I  
WOULDN'T  
CALL IT  
FUN..."











## cut 15: "Coins on a Scale"





THESE  
ARE  
GOSSIP  
COINS.

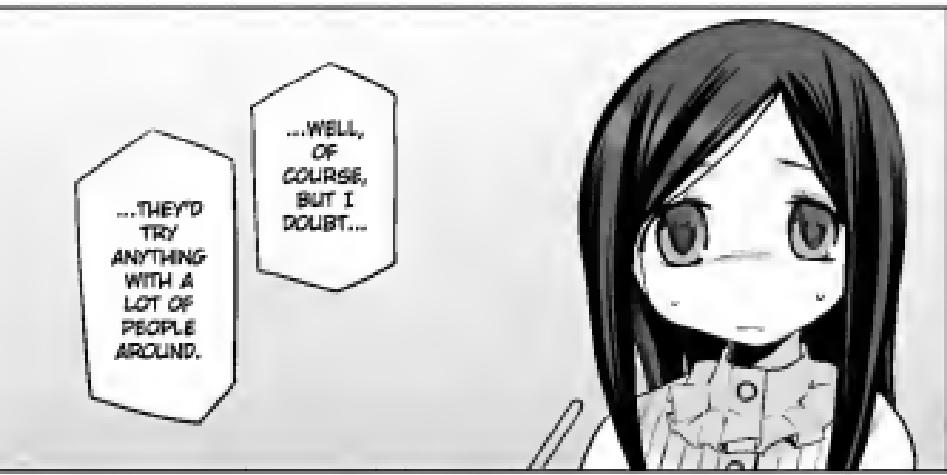
THEY'RE  
KIND OF  
LIKE AN  
I.D. CARD.

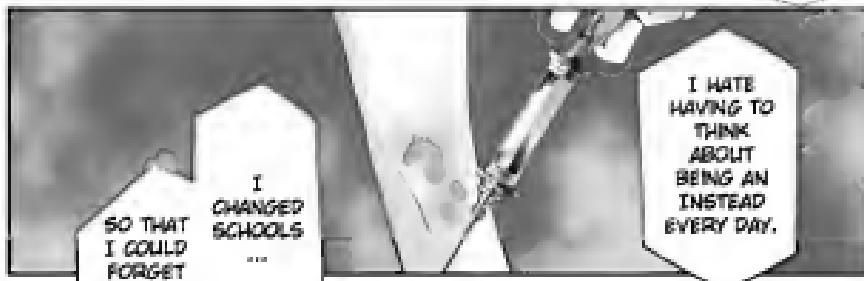
THAT'S  
WHAT I  
THOUGHT...

...YEAH,  
WE GOT  
THE SAME  
THING.

...TO  
GO TO  
ONE OF  
GOSSIP'S  
PARTIES

THERE  
WAS  
ALSO AN  
INVITATION  
FOR US...









...IT  
SOUNDS  
QUITE  
FORMAL.

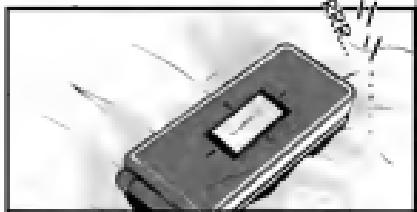


...DO  
YOU  
THINK  
SCHOOL  
CLOTHES



...I  
BET THE  
PROFESSOR  
WOULD  
HAVE  
SOMETHING  
IF YOU  
ASKED.







...I  
DON'T  
EITHER.

CALLING  
AND  
TALKING  
TO ME SO  
CARELESSLY!

WHY  
DOES  
EVERONE  
KEEP  
ASKING  
ME?

YOU  
AND  
HAIRU!

I TOLD  
YOU I WILL  
KILL YOU  
SOMEDAY...

...WE'RE  
ENEMIES...

...BUT...

SORRY...

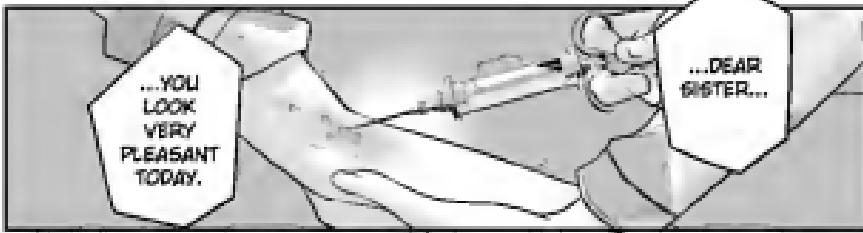
I'M  
SORRY...











...DEAR  
SISTER...



cut 16



W-WHY  
DO I  
HAVE TO  
HEAR  
THAT  
FROM  
YOU?

NO  
CLUE

BUT I  
WON'T  
ALLOW  
IT!

I-I  
DON'T  
KNOW  
WHERE  
YOU'RE  
GOING.

IT  
REMINDS  
ME OF....

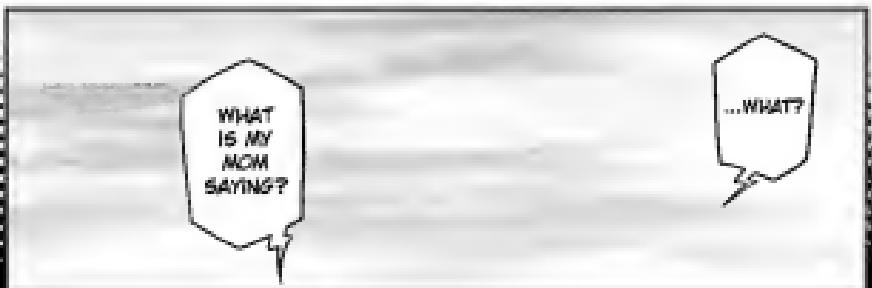
...IT  
BOTHERS  
ME..

...THE  
FIRST  
TIME YOU  
CAME  
HERE.



**cut 16: "Wondering Wheel"**





YOU CAN'T  
TRY TO  
PAYING  
CUSTOMER  
LIKE THAT

DON'T GO  
SHOPPING  
WHILE YOU  
LEAVE HIM  
WAITING...

...WHAT  
CAN YOU  
DO?  
I GUESS...  
I HOPE  
THEY  
AREN'T  
ANGRY.

HMM.

DEAR KASHIKO:

THERE'S A  
CUSTOMER  
WAITING. BE  
SURE THEY  
PAY!

CREAM

IT'S PITCH  
BLACK...  
WHERE'S  
THE  
CUSTOMER  
...?

HUH?



THAT  
SUR-  
PRISED  
ME...

WHOA.



HE'S  
THE GUY  
FROM  
KOTARO'S  
CLASS.

KOTARO  
DID  
MENTION  
THAT HE  
TOLD HIM  
ABOUT  
US.

HUSH

I SEE...  
HE FELL  
ASLEEP SO  
SHE DIDN'T  
WAKE HIM  
UP.

THEN  
JUST  
WAKE  
HIM UP.

Z Z Z



YOU  
ARE OUR  
CUSTOMER,  
AFTER ALL.

SO  
WAS IT  
JUST A  
HAIR-  
CUT?

I WONDER  
IF SHE  
OFFERED  
A  
DISCOUNT

THUMP

CLIP







mu

...PLEASE  
BE GRATEFUL.

I HAVEN'T  
TOLD  
ANYONE  
ABOUT IT  
'TIL NOW.





...YOU  
ARE...

...OKAY...  
RIGHT  
?

...UM...



...IT  
FELT LIKE  
YOU WERE  
BEING  
CON-  
TROLLED...

...BY  
SOMETHING  
ELSE.

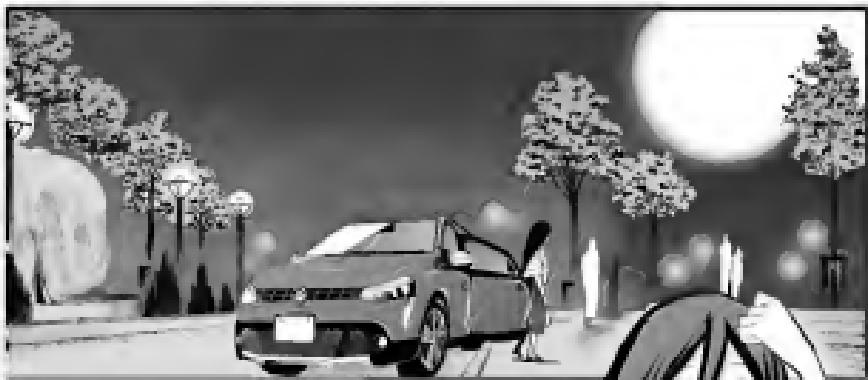
IN THE  
DARK,  
YOU WERE  
ALMOST  
LIKE  
SOMEONE  
ELSE.

BUT...  
I STILL  
REMEM-  
BER.

SORRY.























WE WILL  
FIND OUT  
HERE...



...THE  
MEANING  
OF WHAT  
WE HOLD...

AND WHO  
IT IS WE  
SHOULD  
OPPOSE.

cut 17

YOU LIVE  
DEEP IN THE  
FOREST WHERE  
YOU PRACTICE  
YOUR PUBLISHERS  
SPELLS.

I WILL NOT  
LISTEN TO THE  
WORDS OF A  
WITCH.

SO BEAUTIFUL,  
I'M ENVIOUS.

WHAT FRIGHT-  
FULLY BLACK  
HAIR.

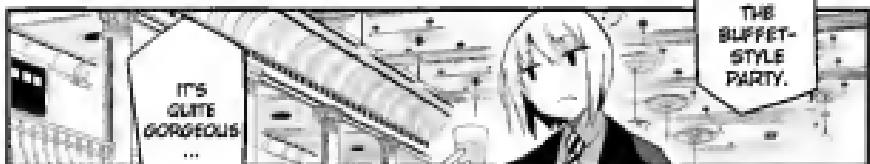
OH.

YOU  
BEST. MY  
QUEEN.

I AM  
JUST A  
VILLAGE  
GIRL.

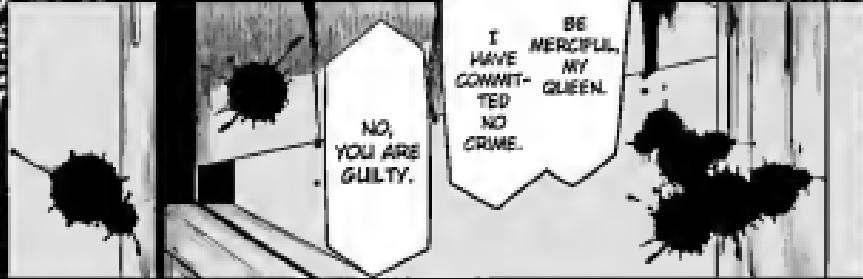
YOURS  
IS MUCH  
BETTER  
THAN  
MINE.







**cut 17: "Party Chopper"**

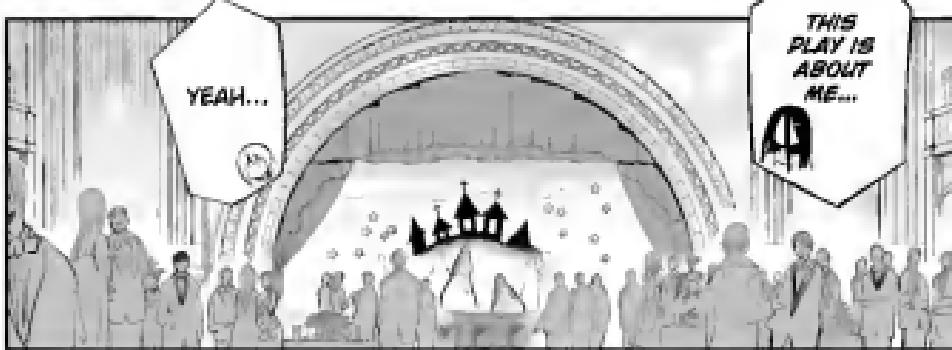


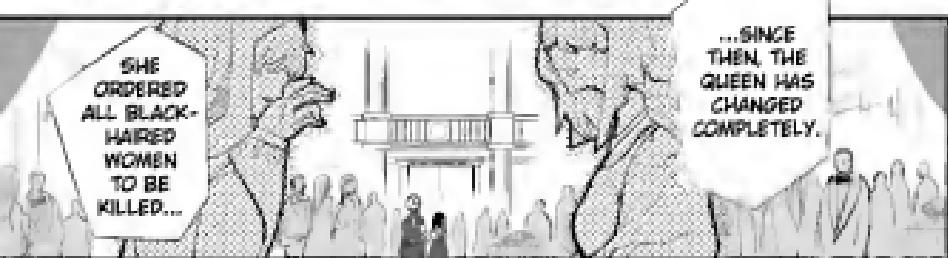


SO...

"QUEEN."

"BLACK  
HAIR."











SEIGI  
NAKAJIMA...  
"RULEBOOK."

WERE  
YOU THE  
ONE WHO  
INVITED  
US HERE?

...I...

...DIDN'T  
THINK  
YOU'D  
COME.



SO WE HAD  
THE CHOICE  
OF NOT  
COMING?

I THOUGHT  
YOU WOULD  
RUN AWAY,  
SCARED.

YOU  
ARE  
QUITE  
THOUGHT-  
LESS.

I MAY HAVE  
BEEN  
SUSPICIOUS,  
BUT PART OF  
ME JUST  
WANTED TO  
GO...

...IT  
WAS A  
FORMAL  
DRESS  
PARTY....

...I DIDN'T  
THINK SO,  
EITHER...  
AND...





I LONG  
FOR AN  
ENEMY...

OH.

BUT  
I LONG  
FOR A  
STRONGER  
ENEMY.

THE  
AUTHORS,  
THOUGH  
FEW IN  
NUMBER,  
HAVE  
APPEASED  
ME FOR A  
WHILE.

...PETTY  
CRIMINALS  
ARE BUT  
MERE  
BABES.

I  
WANT TO  
DISPLAY MY  
POWER.

YET  
IT IS NOT  
ENOUGH.

KILLING  
ONE HAS  
GIVEN  
ME A  
FEELING  
OF  
FULFIL-  
MENT  
LIKE NO  
OTHER.

A  
STRONG  
POWER.

WITH  
THIS  
POWER

HE SAID  
HE WOULD  
PROTECT  
THE  
QUEEN.

SP  
ACK

I HAVE  
HEARD  
THAT THERE  
IS A TOOL  
IN THE  
FORM OF  
SCISSORS.



*...TO ME,  
THAT IS  
THE  
MOST  
SERIOUS  
CRIME OF  
ALL.*

*TO CHOOSE  
TO USE THE  
POWER OF A  
MURDERER...*

*PERFECT  
FOR A  
CRIMINAL  
LIKE YOU.*

*F*  
*N*  
*I*  
*S*  
*H*

*A  
HORRIBLE  
INTERRO-  
GATION.*

BUT IF  
YOU HAVE  
THE  
SLIGHTEST  
DOUBT  
ABOUT  
YOUR  
ABILITY TO  
DO SO...

THAT IS  
WHY I'VE  
COME  
HERE.

IF  
YOU CAN  
REFUTE  
ME, DO IT  
QUICKLY.



**GR  
A**

...THE  
CURTAIN'S  
BEING  
LIFTED.

**TY  
G**

**CLAP  
YOUR  
HANDS!**

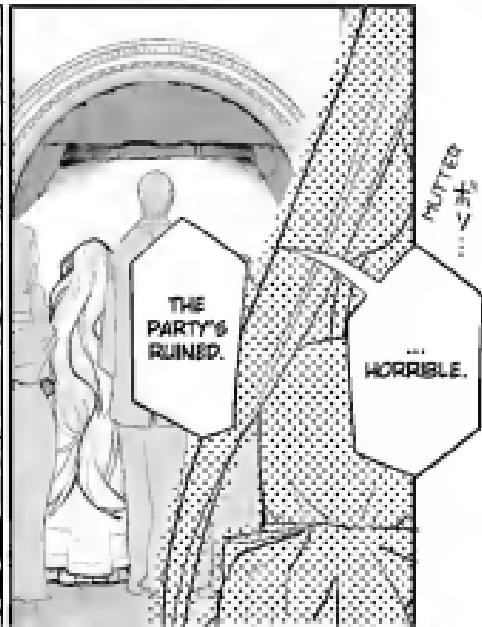




CLAP

CLAP







CLANG

ZAP WHACK

I'M NOT BEING SUSPENDED IN THE AIR, SO I STILL HAVE A CHANCE.

I'LL PULL THE ROPE MYSELF ...!

BUT I ONLY HAVE A LITTLE AIR LEFT.

...ONLY A FEW MORE SECONDS ...!  
I HAVE...





GRISH

ONLY  
WINNERS  
CAN TALK  
BIG.

...YOU  
CAN'T  
HARM ME,  
EITHER.

YOU'LL  
NEED TO  
DO MORE  
THAN THIS  
TO KILL  
ME.

CHOKE  
ME YOUR-  
SELF.

COWARD.

HEH











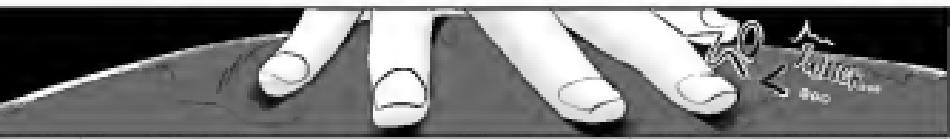
...I WIN.



















DAMN...



UGH...











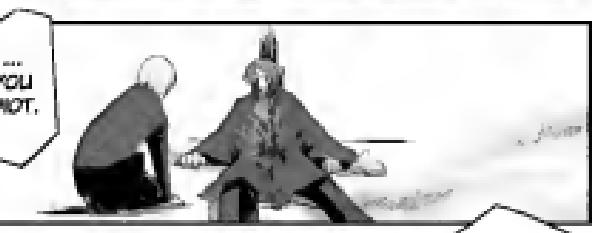
FROM  
THE LOOKS  
OF THINGS,  
ANYWAY...

SHE...  
HAD SOME  
PAWN OF  
AN AUTHOR.  
TRY TO  
KILL ME.



I DON'T  
KNOW  
HOW TO  
PROVIDE  
FIRST  
AID...

...WHAT  
SHOULD  
I DO?



YOU  
SHOULD  
BE MORE  
EXCITED.

... YOU  
IDIOT.



YOU  
SEEMED TO  
HATE ME  
FROM THE  
BEGINNING.

DON'T  
FEEL SORRY  
FOR ME  
BECAUSE  
IT'S THE  
END.



...I  
DON'T  
WANT  
PITY.



"LOOK,  
IT'S ME."



"PROUD,  
UNTIL THE  
END--"







THE SEVERING EDGE

cut 18

...TOUGH  
NIGHT,  
HUH?

Green Room



# cut 18: "Lyrical Night Flight"



THE PLAY  
CONTINUES,  
YOU  
KNOW?

QUEEN  
ZEWULFA  
WENT  
INSANE.

TAB

R

...HURT  
THEM...

...LAUGH...

...AND  
TORTURE  
THEM.

HER  
BEHAVIOR  
GOT WORSE  
AS TIME  
WENT BY,  
AND SHE  
WOULD...

WHENEVER  
SHE SAW A  
BLACK-HAIRED  
WOMAN, SHE'D  
SAY IT WAS  
THE WITCH  
AND EXECUTE  
HER.



SHE  
ENJOYED THE  
SLAUGHTER...  
AND  
EVENTUALLY  
SHE WISHED  
IT WOULD  
CONTINUE  
FOREVER.

...THE QUEEN  
HEIRSELF  
BECAME A  
MURDERER.

Gossip  
has been  
in control  
of it since  
then.

This is  
how the  
system of  
the Queen  
and the  
tools came  
to be.

...VIOLET  
WITCHY...

...SO  
YOU'RE...



...I DID  
AN AWFUL  
THING TO  
HIM.



...I'M  
SORRY.











DON'T  
DO  
THAT...

...TO  
KIRI...



HMM



...HER...



...I'LL  
APOLOGIZE  
FOR MY  
RUDIENESS.



TODAY...  
I WAS  
HOPING  
FOR A  
QUIET  
NIGHT.







...EVERYTHING ELSE IS LIKE THE BYONZAKAS SAID...

...MOST OF IT HAPPENED IN FRONT OF ALL THOSE PEOPLE... AND WE DIDN'T SEE THE ACTUAL CRIME TAKE PLACE.



I SEE...



WHERE'S THE PROFESSOR AT? HE LOST THEM?

...THANK YOU.

WE WILL TAKE CARE OF THE REST.

THERE MIGHT BE SOME AFTEREFFECTS FROM THE SUFFOCATION, AND YOU SEEMED TO HAVE EXPERIENCED QUITE A SHOCK.

IF SOMETHING HAPPENS, PLEASE GO TO THE HOSPITAL.

...WHAT ABOUT YOU?

...DIDN'T YOU LIKE SEIGI NAKAJIMA?

ISN'T IT HARDER FOR YOU?  
BECAUSE... WELL...

NO.

NOT  
AT  
ALL.

AHA  
HA HA  
HA HA

I  
GUESS...  
YOU ARE  
JUST A  
MIDDLE  
SCHOOL  
STUDENT.

A  
GROWN  
WOMAN  
ISN'T  
THAT  
EASY TO  
READ.

...I DID...

...THINK  
OF HIM  
AS AN  
ANNOYING  
LITTLE  
BROTHER.

JUST...

GROWN  
WOMAN  
?

7  
7  
7  
HEY HEY



I  
ALWAYS  
WORRIED  
ABOUT  
HIM.

ONE THAT  
WOULD GET  
INTO SUCH  
MISCHIEF  
THAT HE  
MIGHT  
EVENTUALLY  
HURT  
HIMSELF...



HE  
ACTUALLY  
DID KILL  
PEOPLE...

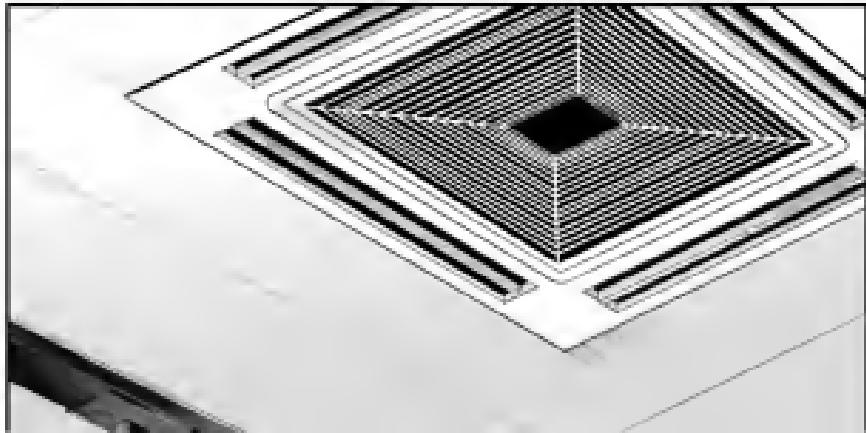
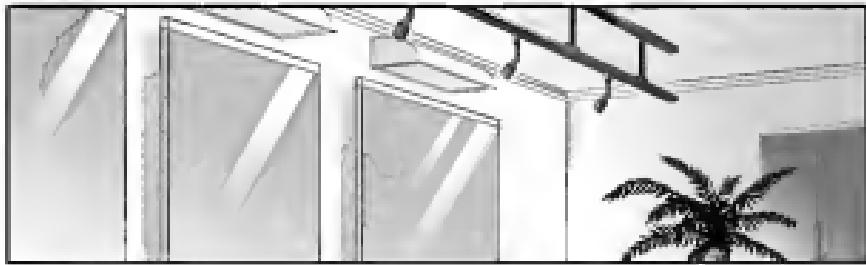
...TRUE.



...HONEST-  
LY, I  
ENJOINED  
IT.

BUT  
CHASED  
HIM...

...AND  
BEING  
CHOKED  
WHILE HE  
RAN AWAY  
WITH A  
SOUR  
FACE...





...ISN'T  
IT THE  
FIRST TIME  
YOU'VE  
SEEN...  
SOMEONE  
DIET?

...YEAH...

A LITTLE  
WHILE  
AGO...  
I SAW  
IT'S... THE SCENE  
COMPLETELY OF AN  
ACCIDENT. BUT...

YEAH...  
SEEING  
THE BODY  
IN FRONT  
OF YOU...

...HE WAS  
MOVING AND  
TALKING IN  
FRONT OF ME  
'TIL JUST A  
WHILE AGO...

...I  
HEARD  
HIS LAST  
WORDS.

HE  
CERTAINLY  
IS JUST  
LIKE ME.

...I  
DON'T  
REALLY  
LIKE IT,  
BUT...

IT MADE  
ME HAPPY  
AND I  
WAS  
INSPIRED.

...WHEN  
I MET YOU...

...FINALLY,  
I KNEW  
SOMEONE  
WHO  
APPRECIATED  
ME USING  
THE  
SCISSORS  
THAT  
EVERYONE  
ELSE HATED  
AND FEARED.

EVEN THOUGH HE HIMSELF WAS INVIGORATED BY THE POWER OF THE KILLING TOOLS, AS WELL.

SO WHEN SOMEONE POINTED THAT OUT TO ME, IT WAS IRRITATING.

RUSTLE

...WHEN SOMEONE SO SIMILAR TO YOU PASSES AWAY.

...IT'S REALLY A DOWNER

YOU WERE ANNOYED.

YEAH...

OH... SO THAT'S WHY YOU WENT AFTER HIM SO EAGERLY.

...I WONDER IF THAT'LL HAPPEN TO ME SOMEDAY.

...IF I CONTINUE USING THE KILLING TOOLS...

CLINK





...I  
WANTED  
TO TOUCH  
HER.



...SO  
CUTE.



I THINK...  
HOLDING  
HER MIGHT  
BE BETTER  
IN THIS  
SITUATION.

SAYING  
IT'S  
OKAY...  
WON'T  
MEAN  
MUCH.

OO



*cllop*

...I'VE  
NEVER  
TOUCHED  
HER BODY  
CONSCIOUS-  
LY.

...I'VE  
ALWAYS  
FELT HER  
HAIR,  
BUT...

...I  
THOUGHT I  
MIGHT DO  
SOMETHING  
WRONG.



...I CAN'T  
HOLD BACK  
ANYMORE.

BUT...

BUT...

...I CAN'T  
HOLD BACK  
ANYMORE.







I LOVE  
IT ALL.

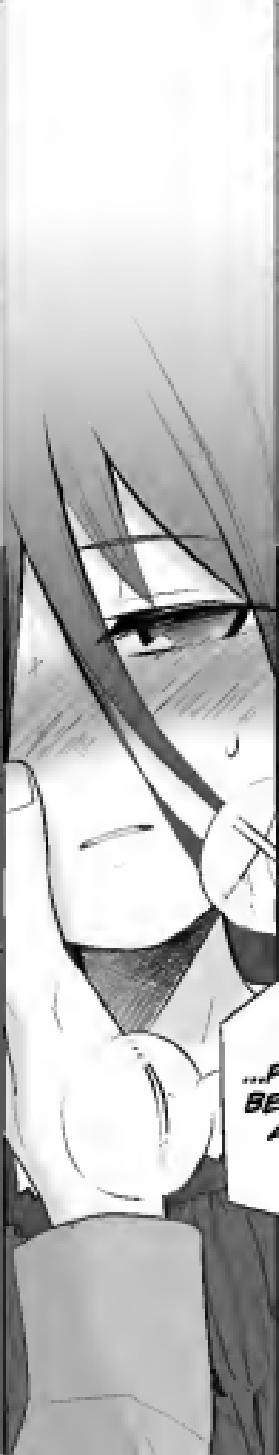
EVER  
SINCE I  
MET YOU...

...I'VE  
ALWAYS  
BEEN  
HAPPY.

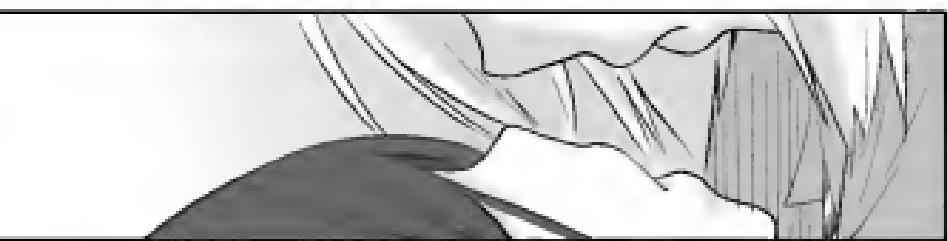
YOUR  
BODY...  
YOUR  
HEART.

...YOUR  
HAIR.











AAAH...  
AAAHH...  
AAAHHH...

I CAN'T...

YOUR  
FOREHEAD  
IS... AS  
FAR AS I  
CAN GO...

KIRI...

SIT  
STRAIGHT

...I.  
...I.  
...I.

MY  
LIPS  
WILL BE  
WAITING.

...DON'T  
YOU  
EVER  
DIE!

SO AT  
LEAST  
UNTIL THEN...

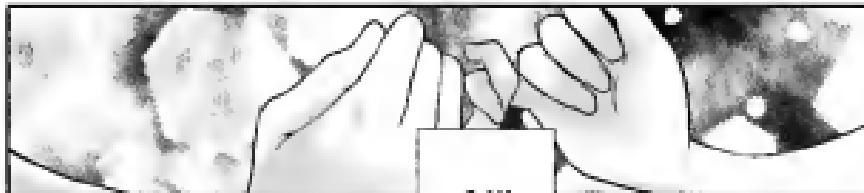




...OH.

...Y...

YES!



I AM  
ONE  
LUCKY  
PERSON.



...THE  
PERSON  
I LOVE...



THE  
PERSON  
I LIKE...

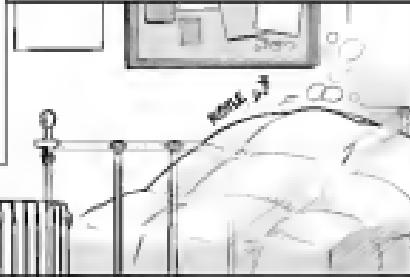


...HE WILL  
DO HIS  
BEST TO  
BE BY MY  
SIDE.

OUR  
FEELINGS  
ARE ONE  
AND THE  
SAME.

...I'LL  
PUT ON  
SOME  
CLOTHES  
IN THE  
MORNING.

WAIT  
PATIENTLY  
FOR HIM  
AND TRY  
TO ACT AS  
CUTE AS I  
CAN.



AND  
I'LL HAVE  
MY HAIR  
CUT.

MY HAIR  
THAT  
REACHED  
ALL THE  
WAY TO  
THE  
FLOOR.



SEE, MY  
FEET ARE  
OBSCURED  
BY A  
SHEET OF  
BLACK  
HAIR...  
...JUST  
LIKE THE  
FIRST  
DAY I  
WAS  
CURSED.

MY HAIR  
THAT'S  
LONG  
ENOUGH  
TO DRAG  
AROUND.





**to be continued**







# **THE SEVERING CRIME EDGE**

**Volume 3**

**KADOKAWA MANGA**

**Story and Art by**

**Tatsuhiko Hikagi**

**DANSAIBUNRI NO CRIME EDGE**

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